

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Previously Presented) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids, the derivatives comprising oligomers of the lipids selected from ceramides and/or sphingosines.
2. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1, wherein the fatty acid component of the sphingosines and the fatty acid components of the ceramides comprise palmitic acid (~~n-hexadecanoic acid, C₁₅H₃₁-COOH~~) or another monocarboxylic acid with a chain length of between 10 and 40 C-atoms.
3. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1, wherein the fatty acid components are selected from the group consisting of saturated monocarboxylic acids n-dodecanoic acid (~~lauric acid, C₁₁H₂₃-COOH~~), n-tetradecanoic acid (~~myristic acid, C₁₃H₂₇-COOH~~), n-octadecanoic acid (~~stearic acid, C₁₇H₃₅-COOH~~), n-icosanoic acid (~~arachidic acid, C₁₉H₃₉-COOH~~), n-tetracosanoic acid (~~lignoceric acid, C₂₃H₄₇-COOH~~), *cis*- Δ^9 -hexadecenoic acid (~~palmitoleic acid, C₁₅H₂₉-COOH~~), *cis*- Δ^9 -octadecenoic acid (~~oleinic acid, oleic acid, C₁₇H₃₃-COOH~~), *cis,cis*- Δ^9 - Δ^{12} -octadecadienoic acid (~~linoleic acid, C₁₇H₃₁-COOH~~), all-*cis*- Δ^9 , Δ^{12} , Δ^{15} -octadecatrienoic acid (~~linolenic acid, C₁₇H₂₉-COOH~~), α -hydroxytetracosanoic acid, (~~cerebronic acid, C₂₂H₄₅-CHOH-COOH~~) ~~or from~~ decanoic acid (C₁₀H₂₁-COOH), octacosanoic acid (C₂₈H₅₇-COOH), ~~or and~~ *cis*- Δ^9 -octacosanoic acid (C₂₈H₅₅-COOH).
4. (Previously Presented) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1, wherein, within the oligomeric lipid molecule, the cross-linkage of respectively two adjacent lipid monomers is effected strictly alternately either in the "tail-to-tail" arrangement or in the "head-to-head" arrangement.
5. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1, wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded respectively in the "tail-to-tail" arrangement via their hydrophobic fatty acid radical, ~~preferably via the ω -position carbon atom of the fatty acid chain, by a covalent bond.~~

6. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1, wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded respectively in the “tail-to-tail” arrangement via ~~a so-called “intradimeric spacer”~~ an intradimeric spacer with a freely selectable molecule chain length and composition.

7. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 6, wherein the intradimeric spacer comprises at least one carbon atom and/or at least one heteroatom (~~oxygen, nitrogen, etc.~~).

8. (Previously Presented) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1, wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded to each other in the “head-to-head” arrangement respectively via their hydrophilic structural component.

9. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 1, wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded in the “head-to-head” arrangement via ~~a so-called “interdimeric spacer”~~ an interdimeric spacer with a freely selectable molecule chain length and composition.

10. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 9, wherein the interdimeric spacer ~~situated between the two lipid dimers which are cross-linked in the “head-to-head” arrangement~~ is predominantly hydrophilic.

11. (Currently Amended) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 9, wherein the interdimeric spacer ~~situated between the two lipid dimers which are cross-linked in the “head-to-head” arrangement~~ contains as structural components, ~~e.g. selected from the group consisting of~~ glycerine, amino acids and/or amino acids, carbohydrate components (~~monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides etc.~~), ~~and/or further structural components such as e.g. mevalonic acid or~~ mevalonic acid, and pyrrolidone carboxylic acid.

12. (Previously Presented) Pharmaceutical preparation containing lipids according to claim 1 as active substance.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (New) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 5, wherein two adjacent lipid molecules are bonded respectively in the “tail-to-tail” arrangement via the ω -position carbon atom of the fatty acid chain, by a covalent bond.

16. (New) Derivatives of natural, semisynthetic and synthetic lipids according to claim 7, wherein the heteroatom is selected from the group consisting of oxygen and nitrogen.